

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the abstract as follows:

Please replace the abstract with the following rewritten paragraph:

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to absorbent articles, typically for feminine protection, ~~comprising~~ including a topsheet, a backsheet and an absorbent element positioned between the topsheet and the backsheet. ~~The said~~ absorbent element ~~comprising~~ includes a fluid storage layer which ~~comprises~~ is a liquid absorbent thermoplastic composition. ~~comprising~~ The absorbent thermoplastic composition is a polymeric base material having particles of water-insoluble water-swallowable absorbent material dispersed therein. ~~The liquid absorbent thermoplastic composition being~~ is configured in a plurality of unattached spaced apart zones.